[22nd January 1964

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Is the assistance given in cash or is it given in machinery?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The aid is given as loan out of which they can purchase the machinery.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : If instalments are paid on the due dates, what are the steps taken to recover the amounts?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Revenue Recovery Act is applicable to them.

Retirement age

* 30 *Q*.—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to raise the age of retirement for technical and scientific personnel in Government service to 58; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : In view of the fact that there is dearth of scientific and technical personnel, will it not be proper for the Government to reconsider the decision to raise the age of retirement of the Government servants to 58?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : In view of the dearth of technical personnel, they are given re-employment and this decision has been taken based on a number of considerations. Where there is really dearth of qualified personnel and where a person is physically fit and can continue to work and if the person has special qualifications and training, these are taken into account and in deserving cases re-employment is given.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Is it not a fact that there is dearth of scientific and technical personnel in Government service?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It cannot be said generally that there is dearth of personnel in Government departments. There are specific fields in which there is dearth.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : In view of the fact that the age of retirement of Government servants has been raised in some other States and in the Centre, will this Government consider this favourably and raise the age to 58?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The State Government have considered it and they have taken the decision that the age of retirement need not be raised.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Are the Government aware of the fact that there is a difficulty in re-employing people in the case of certain posts which are to be filled by promotions? If a man already in service is re-employed, it blocks the prospects of people down below and this does not encourage people to work very well. Will the Government consider this aspect also and see whether the age could not be raised to 58?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : If the age of retirement is raised to 58, then the chances of the people down below will be delayed by another three years. Therefore, Government have very carefully considered this and come to the conclusion that except in rare cases re-employment should not be given.

Bye-elections

* 31 *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether travelling and daily allowances have been claimed by the Ministers during the three bye-elections held recently in the State; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : Presumably the hon. Member wants to know whether any of the Ministers drew Travelling or Daily allowance for touring the Constituencies concerned during the period of the three bye-elections held recently in this State. If so, the answer to clause (*a*) is in the negative and clause (*b*) does not arise.

Urdu speaking Muslims

* 32 *Q.*—SRI R. VENKATACHALAM (on bedalf of Sri K. S. Abdul Wahab) : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received from the Urdu speaking Muslims to enlist them as backward community; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) It has been decided that no action need be taken in the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.